IEPA - BOW - *Peoria*

Inspection Report

Subject:	Hancock County (Durham)	Wildcat Farms, LLC. Professional Swine Management, LLC 2558 N. County Road 2150 Dallas City, IL 62330
To:	DWPC/FOS & RU	
From:	Star M. Fowler	DWPC-FOS, Peoria Region
Date:	May 12, 2011	

On May 12, 2011 at 10:20 AM Eric Ackerman and I visited Wildcat Farms, LLC to inspect the 6,000 sow (farrow to wean) facility. Bill Beckman, Director of Facilities and Assessments, and Henry Wilson, Soil and Water Conservation Manager, accompanied us during our inspection. A plan view and various drawings of the site, the bio-security flowchart, business card, and digital photographs of the area are attached to this report. Weather conditions for the day were sunny and the temperature was approximately 76°F. The following paragraphs provide further details of the field visit that compliment the CAFO Checklist.

Location:
This facility is located approximately 2 miles south of Durham, Illinois. It is positioned about ¼ mile west of County Road 2150E as shown in Figure 1. The legal description is SW ¼, Section 28, T7N-R6W, (Durham Township) in Hancock County. This swine facility is located in the watershed of Wildcat Creek.

Overview:
Wildcat Farms, LLC is managed by Professional Swine Management, LLC (PSM). Mr. Carl High, who was unavailable at the time of inspection, is the manager of Wildcat Farms, LLC. According to Mr. Beckman this facility started production August 6, 2007.

Site Description:
Wildcat Farms, LLC has recently hired Mr. Wilson who has expanded the Vegetative Environmental Buffer (VEB) around this site. Last year a single row of trees was planted around the site. Just a few weeks ago a second row of Austrees was added to the VEB on the north east and west sides of the facility. These new Austrees were planted 5' on center and came bare roots at approximately 3.5' to 4' tall.

On-Site Personnel:
This facility has 18 employees in total on-staff. There are three managers: Carl High, Seth Krantz, and Fred Huhr. Carl High is stated to be the highest manager in charge for this site.

On-Site Water Source:
The water for the facility is taken from a fresh water pond that is located on the east side of the site. This is an on-site impoundment created from an unnamed tributary of Wildcat Creek. This water is chlorinated before reaching the buildings.

Cooling System:
This site uses an Aerotech Express Cool Cooling System along with tunnel vents to lower the temperature in the buildings. All the water from this system is captured and re-used in the cooling system.

Total Confinement Buildings:
This facility has 5 total confinement buildings on site. Below is a summary of the buildings with estimated dimensions and capacities. Please see Figure 2 through Figure 4 for locations on site.

Building Name	Estimated Capacity		Estimated Dimensions	Pit Depth	Pit Volume
Gestation Barn 2	2660	Over 55#	117' 6" X 440'	2' Pull Plug	~773,000 gal
Farrowing	1080 8400	Over 55# Under 55#	106' X 524'	2' Pull Plug	~831,000 gal
Gestation Barn 1	2660	Over 55#	117' 6" X 440'	2' Pull Plug	~773,000 gal
Gilt Development	1600	Over 55#	66' X 294'	2' Pull Plug	~290,000 gal
Isolation Finisher/Grower	586	Under 55#	48' X 56'	2' Pull Plug	~40,000 gal

All of the buildings at this facility have full pits. The plugs for the pits are located at the corners of the building. All pull plug pits drain into a pump station that is operated using a Flygt (submersible) Pump. This pump station has the ability to pump the manure into either of the slurry tanks: the West Tank or the East Tank. There is a manual lever that is used to change which slurry tank the manure will enter.

Slurry Tanks:
This site has two above ground slurry tanks to contain manure in until land application. The chart below gives a detailed description of each slurry tank:

Slurry Storage Tank	Model	Serial Number	Diameter	Depth	Estimated Capacity	Estimated Freeboard
East Tank	Model 96 A	5070000	176'	19'	~3.5 Million gal	~15'
West Tank	Model 96 A	50700001	176'	19'	~3.5 Million gal	~10'

During the inspection the East Tank had 3 full rings and approximately 6" of freeboard available. The West Tank had approximately 2 rings of freeboard, and the floatation measuring device was broken. The West Tank had a thick crust forming on the top (See Photograph #11 and #12.) Both slurry tanks had floatation measuring devices added and mirrors. The mirrors were added to easily see the depth inside slurry tank while pumping manure. The slurry tanks have two valves: one valve for releasing the manure and the other for agitation. The two valves can be seen in Photograph #8.

Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan:
This facility operates under a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP.) The CNMP is updated every 3 years.

Manure Management:
The land application of the manure is contracted out to the company Twin Valley Pumping, which is owned and operated by Matt Bradshaw. Mr. Bradshaw land applies the manure using a drag line injection system. The slurry tanks are usually emptied each spring and fall. Both of the tanks were just emptied at the end of March this year. Mr. Bradshaw uses laser readings in the liquid manure to get a measure for reading the solids depth in the tanks. This facility produces an estimate of 11 Million gallons of manure each year.

The facility has an easement agreement to land apply manure from October to April. According to Mr. Wilson this easement will be up in the spring of 2032. The easement is with two landowners who are the only recipients of the manure. The manure is applied to corn on corn acres.

To help prevent any manure release there has been a dam created around the facility. A rough estimated location of the dam can be seen in Figure 4. There is a culvert under the dam that releases the storm water runoff into the unnamed stream which eventually enters Wildcat Creek.

Extended Cleanout Pipes:
As can be seen in Photograph #4 all the cleanout pipes have been extended and now are surrounded by posts so that they are easily seen. This was done in response to the manure release that occurred on approximately September 18, 2008 (for more details of this manure release please reference the Inspection Report for this facility dated September 23, 2008.)

Mortality Compost Area:
The mortalities on-site are composted in a partially enclosed building located on the northwest side of the facility. At the time of the inspection the compost area was saturated as can be seen in Photograph #1. According to Mr. Beckman the site received driving rain the day before which caused the standing water in the compost area. The leachate from the compost area is held in the compost area by a curved lip on the floor of the building. This lip keeps the wastewater from being released. This compost area was sectioned off into four different cells. This is a partially enclosed compost area made of approximately 7’ tall concrete walls with approximately 2’ of open air windows before the roof. The opening to this area has a gate that is used to keep the coyotes out. This gate is reported to be working in keeping the coyotes away. An L-shaped concrete extension protrudes from the southwest side of the building to hold the bedding material and keep it from being washed away.

Mr. Beckman stated that the temperature of the compost is usually around 200°F. He stated that the compost was just turned last week. As can be seen in Photograph #2 some swine bones were exposed and visible in the compost area. Additional cover material (carbon source) is needed. Adding more cover to the compost was discussed with Mr. Beckman during the inspection.

This facility keeps records on the mortalities. The mortalities rate at this time is approximately 5% among the sow units or approximately 5 a week. The piglet mortality rate is higher at approximately 25-30 a day. The gilts mortality rate is approximately 2%. This facility is farrowing approximately 300 sows a week.

Samples:

Surface liquid samples were collected at 2 locations on the below date as described. Mr. Beckman with Wildcat Farms, LLC also took samples at the same following 2 locations. Both samples were taken on-site of the facility. The legal description is SW ¼, Section 28, T7N-R6W, (Durham Township) in Hancock County. See Figure 4 for visual location of samples.

Station B (12:11 PM May 12, 2011)

Station B identifies a liquid sample collected on the north side of the man made dam located to the north of the two slurry tanks. The sample area is located near the outlet of an approximately 12" diameter white PVC pipe. The sample area can be seen in Photograph #18. The stream has a trickle flow and the water is clear.

Station B-1 (12:14 PM May 12, 2011)

Station B-1 identifies a liquid sample collected on the north side of the gravel lane entrance to the facility. The sample area can be seen in Photograph #15. The stream is turbid with a trickle flow and is dark in color. There is foam noticed in the stream.

Power Issue:

During the inspection on the above date the facility was having an issue with the power. According to Mr. Beckman there is a transformer issue with leaking involved. Ameren personnel were located on-site working on the issue during the inspection. There was a generator supplying power to the facility. The facility had been running off the generator since the beginning of the week, or approximately for 3 days.

Mr. Beckman stated that the generator is maintained by being exercised weekly. There is a phone tree attached to the generator with at least 12 people on dial. The dialer is battery operated and the battery is tested once a month.

Bio-Security:

This facility has a few strict bio-security measures. These measures apply to all PSM facilities. There have been some issues with PRRS recently at different PSM facilities. See Figure 5. for the bio-security flowchart for PSM facilities.

It is unclear if the Ameren personnel on-site at the time of the inspection had any bio-security measures they had to comply with before being allowed access to the site.

According to Mr. Beckman the following bio-security rules are in place with PSM facilities:

1. Vehicle to be washed, before entrance into facility:
    a. Inside-including floor mats
    b. Outside
2. Pig-free 2 days or at least 3 overnights

NOTE: Mr. Beckman stated if vehicles are not washed then arrangements can be made to meet at a designated location and be driven onto facility.

Mr. Beckman made a few suggestions as well:

1. Use any fly spray to kill any flies that may be trapped in the vehicle.
3. Use one of the following disinfectants before entrance into a facility:
    a. Tek-Trol
    b. Synergize
    c. Lyson

NPDES Permit:
The NPDES Permit application from this facility was received on May 7, 2009. This application is now under review.

This report is submitted for your information.

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Star M. Fowler

Att: -CAFO Checklist
-Figures 1-5
-Business Card
-Photographs
-Laboratory Results

cc: -Bruce Yurdin, BOW
-Chad Kruse, Assistant Counsel, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
-Peoria Files